Navigational facilities at airports

856. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that modernisation of country's airports has been held up becuase of differences with the Department of Electronics over the purchase of certain equipment;

(b) if so, what are the areas of differences with the Department of Electronics stating the period for which the issues involved remain unresolved; and

(c) what is the present position and the steps taken by Government to resolve these issues to provide adequate navigational facilities at the airports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) to (c) Discussions take place from time to time between the Department of Civil Aviation and the Department of Electronics regarding equipment to be provided for the modernisation of the airports. This is a continuing process. The major project relating to the modernisation of Delhi and Bombay airports is coming up before the Public Investment Board (PIB) shortly.

Japanese assistance for modernisation of Indian Railways

857. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Japan has agreed to render financial assistance for modernisation of Indian Railways ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) whether any agreement has been arrived at between two countries in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the terms of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

A.P. proposal for four-lane bridge on Krishna river in Vijayawada

858. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andhra Pradesh Government has proposed for a four-lane Kanaka Durgamma Valadhi bridge at Vijayawada on river Krishna on the National Highway ; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that only a double lane bridge was constructed; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (d) The State Government had requested for construction of a four lane bridge across river Krishna on NH 5. After examining all aspects it was felt that in view of the existing barrage-cum-road-bridge, a two lane bridge would be adequate for carrying the traffic.

Food supply in trains and Railway Canteens

859. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the food supplied in Trains and Railway Canteens is very costly; and